

Appl. No. 10/700,614  
Atty. Docket No. 9422L  
Amdt. dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of 02/08/2005  
Customer No. 27752

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising at least two burnishes, each said burnish comprising an outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material and, said two burnishes being disposed so that said first surfaces subtend an included angle of at least 180°.
2. (Original) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein each said burnish is flat.
3. (Original) An applicator according to claim 2, wherein said burnishes may be extrapolated to intersect at a vertex, each said burnish being offset from said vertex.
4. (Original) An applicator according to claim 3, wherein said first surfaces of said burnish subtend an included angle of at least 270°.
5. (Original) An applicator according to claim 2, wherein said burnishes comprise mutually different materials.
6. (Original) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein said burnishes subtend an included angle of less than 180° opposite said first surfaces, said applicator further comprising a holder, said holder being disposed within said included angle of less than 180°.
7. (Original) An applicator according to claim 6, wherein said burnishes and said holder are elongate, and said aperture defines an elongate slit, said slit being disposed above one said burnish when said one burnish is disposed against a vertical substrate.

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8. (Original) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein said applicator is disposable against a flat substrate, said applicator further comprising a control bar for attachment to a sheet material, said control bar being movable between an deployed position and a retractable position, whereby said control bar is juxtaposable with a corner formed by said substrate when said control bar is extended to said deployed position.
9. (Original) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein said at least one burnish comprises a compliant material.
10. (Original) An applicator according to claim 9, wherein at least one said burnish comprises felt.
11. (Original) An applicator according to claim 9, wherein at least one said burnish is flat.
12. (Original) An applicator according to claim 11 comprising at least two said burnishes, both said burnishes being flat An applicator according to claim 9, wherein at least one said burnish is flat.
13. (Currently amended) An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising at least ~~one burnish~~ two non-rotatable burnishes, at least one said burnish having an arcuate and outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material onto the substrate, said other burnish also having an outwardly facing first surface, whereby both of said first surfaces can burnish said sheet material while said applicator is in use, said first surfaces of said burnishes being disposed in convex noncoplanar relationship relative to ~~an inside corner formed by the substrate~~ each other.
14. (Currently amended) An applicator according to claim 13, wherein said first surfaces of said ~~at least~~ two burnishes comprise different materials ~~are convexly disposed and subtend an included angle of at least 180°~~.

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15. (Original) An applicator according to claim 14, comprising two arcuate burnishes, at least one of said arcuate burnishes having a first surface which is convexly shaped, wherein each said arcuate burnish is arcuate about a major axis, said applicator having a hinge generally parallel to said major axis, each said burnish being joined to and articulable about said hinge relative to the other.
16. (Withdrawn) A method of applying a sheet material to a substrate, said method comprising the steps of: providing an elongate applicator having a major axis and being usable for dispensing said sheet material onto said substrate, said applicator having a first burnish and a second burnish, each said burnish comprising a first surface for burnishing said sheet material onto said substrate, said first surfaces of said burnishes being disposed at an included angle of at least 180°, said applicator further comprising a dispensing aperture disposed underneath said first surfaces of said burnishes;  
loading sheet material into said applicator;  
placing said first burnish against said substrate, so that said sheet material is in contact with said substrate;  
moving said applicator in a application direction whereby said sheet material is applied to said substrate;  
burnishing said sheet material onto said substrate with said first burnish;  
rotating said applicator about said major axis, to engage said second burnish with said sheet material;  
moving said applicator in said application direction to thereby burnish said sheet material with said second burnish; and  
removing said sheet material from said applicator.
17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16, wherein said step of placing said first burnish against said substrate comprises the step of placing said first burnish against a substrate whereby said sheet material has a free end, said free end of said sheet material being juxtaposed with a corner of the substrate.

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18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein said substrate is vertically oriented and said step of moving said applicator in an application direction comprises the step of moving said applicator downward, and said step of rotating said applicator about said major axis comprises the step of rotating said applicator about said major axis in an overhand direction.

19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16, wherein said step of providing an applicator comprises the step of providing an applicator having at least two burnishes, each with an outwardly facing first surface, said first surface subtending an angle of at least 270°.